

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 10007158-120504
- 5 1. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of an estrogen together with a progestogen.
  2. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a fixed quantity of a synthetic estrogen in combination with a synthetic progestin.
  - 10 3. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a fixed quantity of norethindrone acetate (NA) and ethinyl estradiol (EE).
  4. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of compositions containing 1 mg NA and 5  $\mu$ g EE.
  - 15 5. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of 1 mg NA and 10  $\mu$ g EE in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
  - 20 6. A method for preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising an estrogen and a progestogen.
  7. A method for treating and preventing acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a synthetic estrogen in combination with a synthetic progestin.

8. A method for ~~treating and preventing~~ acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of NA in combination with EE.

9. A method of preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of 1 mg NA and a gradually increasing dose of EE; 20 mcg  $\times$  5 days, 30 mcg  $\times$  7 days and 35 mcg  $\times$  9 days.

10. A method of Claim 9 wherein acne is acne vulgaris or cystic acne.

11. A method of preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of Estrostep.

12. A method of Claim 11 wherein the acne is acne vulgaris or cystic acne.

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